

**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME  
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES  
NEWS RELEASE**



*Sam Cotten, Commissioner  
Scott Kelley, Director*



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**NORTON SOUND COMMERCIAL SALMON FISHING OPENINGS**

In consultation with the buyer the department is announcing additional 48-hour commercial salmon fishing periods in Norton Sound.

Commercial salmon fishing will be open for one 48-hour fishing period in Subdistricts 1 and 2, the Nome and Golovin Subdistricts, from 6 p.m. Saturday, August 20 until 6 p.m. Monday, August 22. Commercial salmon fishing will be open for two 48-hour fishing periods in Subdistricts 3—6, the Elim, Norton Bay, Shaktoolik and Unalakleet Subdistricts, from 6 p.m. Saturday, August 20 until 6 p.m. Monday, August 22 and from 6 p.m. Tuesday, August 23 until 6 p.m. Thursday, August 25.

For all fishing periods, permit holders are limited to 100 fathoms of gillnet and 6 inches or less stretch mesh size.

The department shifted the start of Friday's fishing period to Saturday because of the high surf conditions that are expected to lay down beginning Saturday evening. The silver harvest so far this season is 60,000 silvers and on track for an average harvest in Norton Sound. However, some subdistricts have had weaker catches and the department may suspend commercial fishing in those subdistricts if catches remain weak in the upcoming fishing periods.

Here are cumulative escapement counts in Norton Sound:

Kwiniuk River: 138 kings, 8,500 chums, 1.9 million pinks, 12 sockeyes, 2,500 silvers  
Nome River: 21 kings, 6,900 chums, 1.2 million pinks, 215 sockeyes, 400 silvers  
Pilgrim River: 32 kings, 21,000 chums, 3,000 pinks, 15,000 sockeyes, 480 silvers  
Snake River: 14 kings, 3,600 chums, 207,000 pinks, 60 sockeyes, 230 silvers  
Solomon River: 4 kings, 1,900 chums, 117,000 pinks, 9 sockeyes, 190 silvers